

POLICY

A juvenile justice specialist (JJS) who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect must report all instances to Children's Protective Services (CPS). See Administrative Handbook manual Personnel & Professional Development (AHP) AHP 602-4 - Conduct and Responsibilities - Mandated Reporters of Child Abuse and Neglect for additional information.

Note: Adult Abuse and Neglect must also be reported as outlined in AHP 602-3 - Conduct and Responsibilities - Mandated Reporters of Adult Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation.

PURPOSE

Reporting suspected abuse or neglect promotes the safety, health and welfare of children.

AUTHORITY

Child Protection Law, MCL 722.621 et seq.

**REPORTING
REQUIREMENTS
FOR SUSPECTED
ABUSE/NEGLECT**

1. A JJS must immediately make an oral report to CPS in the county in which the child is located.

Note: Although the Office of Children and Adult Licensing (OCAL) or law enforcement officials may conduct the investigation, CPS is the appropriate agency for workers to contact. (MCL722.623(3)).

2. Complete and submit a DHS-3200, Report of Actual or Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect (see RFF 3200) to the CPS within 72 hours.
3. Notify your supervisor and provide a copy of your written report to the county DHS office director.

**ALLEGATIONS OF
POLICE ABUSE**

Since abuse by police officers does not fit the legal definition of "child abuse," workers and other agency personnel are not required to report allegations of such behavior to CPS, nor are they required

to investigate such charges. When allegations of police abuse occur, the JJS is to take the following steps:

1. If the allegations are in writing, turn them over to the appropriate local law enforcement officials. When written allegations involve child sexual abuse or criminal sexual conduct, a copy of the allegations must be sent to the prosecuting attorney. Inform the individual(s) making such allegations of the authorities to whom the reports have been given.
2. If allegations are verbal, inform the individual(s) of the appropriate law enforcement officials to whom they are to report the allegations.